

MINUTES

Thursday, February 10
Fort Union Room, State Capitol

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order by Doug Johnson, Chair. Board members present were Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Randy Gordon, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Michael Schatz. ESPB staff members present were: Deb Jensen, Janet Placek, Bonnie Thompson and Diane Weber. Visitors were: Roman Weiler, Office of Education-Bismarck Diocese; Gary Gronberg from DPI, Bill Peterson from the Attorney General's Office, Linda Edwards and Joe Westby from NDEA. Board member, Randy Gordon, left at 1:00 p.m.; therefore he was not present for the board case discussions.

Board member, Bev Sandness, was absent.

Before the meeting started, Janet informed the board of agenda item changes. Two board cases were added: Renee Elkins and Kim Stelter. Also, the ESPB website item was not covered. The website presentation and the ESL restricted license proposal draft will be March agenda items.

A motion was made by Linda to approve the January minutes. Second by Randy. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Randy Gordon, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Michael Schatz. The board had an opportunity to review the January financial report. The January reports showed \$40,949.84 in revenue and \$27,210.33 in expenses with a fiscal year net income to date of \$46,079.94. Six-two percent of the budget has been expended.

Linda made a motion for an emergency rule change to waive the \$175 out-of-state transcript review fee for the **interim reciprocal** license. When this individual accepts a ND teaching contract, \$175 out-of-state review fee will become due upon renewal of his/her license. No discipline action will be taken if the person doesn't apply immediately, upon signing a contract. Second by Don. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Randy Gordon, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Michael Schatz.

A motion was made by Maryjane to accept the recommendations made by the Program Approval Committee to approve the **Trinity Bible College** accreditation program, with cited stipulations. Second by Doug LaPlante. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Randy Gordon, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Michael Schatz.

There was much discussion regarding the **University of Mary** program approval visitation. A motion was made by Don to accept the recommendations made by the Program Approval Committee

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placing the University of Mary's accreditation program on probation. Second by Randy. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Randy Gordon, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Michael Schatz. If the stipulations are not met by the fall of 2001, these graduates would not be allowed ND teacher licensure.

Deb distributed copies of the draft study on reciprocity. She asked the board to review the draft and provide comments at the March meeting. A proposal was submitted on January 28th for continued Goals 2000 funding for the professional guidelines project.

Board members were able to share reports from various education organizations that they belonged to. Doug LaPlante indicated that NDACTE is planning their summer conference. An item that will be discussed at this conference will be the ND native Am. studies course requirement. Doug Johnson reported on the NDASA conference. Doug Johnson gave a presentation at this conference regarding ND licensure, updates, etc. The presentation went well. He said that the group complimented ESPB on the license renewal, turn around time. Doug Johnson reported that he has been nominated as a candidate for the middle school principal of the year award. For NDSBA, Laura mentioned there could be a mortgage incentive made available for teachers thru a Fannie Mae program. She mentioned this may be a creative tool used to help recruit teachers.

Doug LaPlante reported that at the NDACTE January meeting, the group recommended that ESPB adopt the Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) as an additional requirement for initial teacher licensure in ND. The PPST is a basic skills test that addresses the areas of reading, writing and math. NDACTE recommended that ESPB require that individuals submit their PPST scores at the time of application for the initial ND teacher license. Also, only PPST scores of graduates of ND teacher education programs would be used by the ESPB when scores are reported and comparisons are made between NDACTE member institutions. The board will work on the details at the March meeting.

Gary Gronberg reported that DPI/ESPB are working on the ESL rewrite. The DPI administrative rules final approval meeting will take place on February 23rd.

Linda Edwards distributed the NDEA student membership survey. Joe Westby did the presentation on teacher salaries instead of Max Laird. Joe informed the group that within the next five years, one-half of our ND teachers would be retiring. In the late 70's and early 80's, ND ranked 30th in the nation regarding teacher salaries. At that time, ND was receiving revenue thru oil dollars.

CASES

Jackie Frost-Hodney

The board was considering Ms. Frost-Hodney's file due to a medical emergency and that she was unable to obtain credit hours for renewal of her license. A motion was made by Maryjane to issue

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a letter of approval. Second made by Don. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Mike Schatz. Before a letter of approval is issued, Ms. Frost-Hodney will need to submit to the office a plan of study. Janet will review the plan, checking how many credits are required over the next six years. Bill also suggested that a change in law (NDCC 15-36-18, section 67.1.02-04-02) be reflected to indicate satisfactory completion of the plan vs. 1/7 total per year. Since Ms. Frost-Hodney is not a licensed teacher, a licensed teacher will need to remain in the classroom, while Ms. Frost-Hodney is working with children. Ms. Frost-Hodney is presently a guidance counselor at Dakota Prairie School, Tolna.

Brian Nagel

Mr. Nagel's teaching file was presented to the board to due his criminal record. A motion was made by Don to issue a two-year, renewal teaching license. Second by Mike. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Mike Schatz. Mr. Nagel is not employed with a school district.

Bruce Lundsten

Mr. Lundsten's documentation was made available to the board due an individual improvement plan follow-up. In October 1999, Mr. Lundsten and his employer (Dakota Prairie School, McVile) were asked to report to the board in six months regarding Mr. Lundsten's individual improvement plan. Janet will write the school thanking them for following thru on the plan.

Jeni Nelson

Ms. Nelson's license application was brought before the board due to her background check. A motion was made by Laura to issue a two-year, initial license. Second by Mike. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Mike Schatz. At the present time, Ms. Nelson is not employed with a school.

Leon Thielges

Janet informed the board that the Leon Thielges has not contacted the office regarding his six-month follow-up progress report. The board suggested that he be contacted again requesting the follow-up information. Mr. Thielges' case file will be placed on the March agenda.

Eric Trauger

Mr. Trauger was a board case due to his background check. On his application, part 2, question #2, Mr. Trauger indicated that he had been convicted of a misdemeanor/felony. He was a first time applicant and the FBI/BCI check revealed no criminal history. A motion was made by Linda to issue a two-year, initial license. Second by Maryjane. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Mike Schatz. Mr. Trauger is substitute teaching with Bismarck Public Schools.

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Mark Sondag (Administrative)-FYI

CASE AGENDA ADDITIONS


Renee Elkins

Ms. Elkins was asking the board to consider refunding her \$250 fine. After much discussion, a motion was made by Don that Bill Peterson send a letter to Ms. Elkins informing her that no refund would be issued. The building principal will also receive a copy of this letter. Second by Linda. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Mike Schatz. In the letter, Bill will suggest that the school reimburse Ms. Elkins for the fine she paid. It was determined that neither Ms. Elkins nor the school received an ESPB courtesy notification letter. The school had been notified by DPI thru their accreditation reporting. Ms. Elkins is teaching at New Rockford Public School.

Kim Stelter

Ms. Stelter asked the board to consider refunding her \$400 fine. A motion was made by Don that Bill Peterson send a letter to Ms. Stelter informing her that no refund would be issued. The superintendent will also receive a copy of this letter. Second by Mike. Motion carried. Board members voting yes: Laura Carney, Linda Davis, Don Haugen, Doug Johnson, Doug LaPlante, Maryjane Martens and Mike Schatz. Again, neither Ms. Stelter nor the school received a courtesy notification. The school was notified by DPI thru their accreditation reporting in December 1999 of Ms. Stelter's license expiration. Ms. Stelter is teaching at the Tioga Public School.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 9th.


Chair
2/17/00


Secretary/Executive Director